

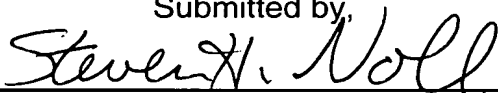
REMARKS

The present Amendment makes an editorial correction in claim 1 which was noted to be necessary after the Notice of Appeal was filed. The change in claim 1 is necessary in order to use consistent terminology throughout claim 1.

The same change was made in claim 3 in Amendment "A" filed November 4, 2002, and claim 1 should have been amended in the same manner at that time, but through inadvertence, this was not done.

This Amendment does not raise any new issues requiring further searching or consideration, and presents claim 1 in a better form for consideration in the present appeal. Therefore this Amendment is properly enterable after the final rejection and entry of the present Amendment is respectfully requested.

Submitted by,



(Reg. 28,982)

SCHIFF, HARDIN & WAITE

CUSTOMER NO. 26574

Patent Department

6600 Sears Tower

233 South Wacker Drive

Chicago, Illinois 60606

Telephone: 312/258-5790

Attorneys for Applicant.

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (Twice amended) A method for entering contents of a franking imprint into a postage meter machine, said postage meter machine having an electronic, digitally operating printer and said contents being employed for printing said franking imprint with said printer, said method comprising the steps of:

storing a set of data in a non-volatile, non-removable memory of said postage meter machine by permanently programming said [additional] set of data at a manufacturing location, said data being selected from the group consisting of different country-specific data and different carrier-specific data;

installing a data communication interface in said postage meter machine; and configuring said franking imprint of said postage meter machine prior to use at a use location remote from said manufacturing location for at least one of a selected carrier and a selected country, by communicating with said postage meter machine via said interface, to select at least one of said permanently programmed carrier-specific data and country-specific from said non-removable memory data.